

REMARKS

Claims 1-11 and 14-27 are pending in this application, with Claims 1, 14-16, 18, 20, and 22-27 being independent claims.

Claims 12 and 13 have been cancelled without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter presented therein.

Claims 1-3, 5-11 and 14-27 have been amended. Applicant submits that support for these amendments can be found in the original disclosure, and therefore no new matter has been added.

The Abstract has been amended in view of the Examiner's objection. Favorable consideration and withdrawal of the objection are requested.

Claim 1-3, 6-7, 10-12, 14, 20-23 and 27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,748,533 B1 (Wu et al.). Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection for the reasons discussed below.

As recited in independent Claim 1, the present invention includes, *inter alia*, the features of encrypting a partial content, embedding a digital watermark in the encrypted partial content, decrypting the encrypted partial content into which the digital watermark is embedded, and compositing the decrypted partial content with other partial content. Applicant submits that none of the cited art discloses or suggest at least this feature. In particular, Wu et al. discloses encrypting a part of a document and inserting the encrypted data in the original document as a watermark. However, that reference does not disclose or suggest embedding a watermark into encrypted partial content, or decrypting the encrypted partial content in which the watermark is embedded and compositing it with other partial

content after decryption. Accordingly, Applicant submits that Claim 1 is patentable over the cited art. Claim 22 recites a similar feature and is patentable for similar reasons.

As recited in independent Claim 14, the present invention includes, among others, the features of embedding a digital watermark into an encrypted partial content and then passing the partial content embedded with the digital watermark to another apparatus or unit. Applicant submits that Wu et al. fails to disclose or suggest at least these features. Although Wu et al. discloses encrypting a part of a document and embedding it as a watermark, Applicant submits that that reference fails to disclose or suggest embedding a watermark in partial content that has been encrypted. Accordingly, Applicant submits that Claim 14 is patentable. Claim 23 recites a similar feature and is patentable for similar reasons.

As recited in independent Claim 20, the present invention includes the feature of embedding a digital watermark in content by a scheme corresponding to a discrimination result of discriminating a format of the content. Applicant submits that neither Wu et al. nor the other cited art discloses or suggests at least this feature. Accordingly, Applicant submits that Claim 20 is patentable over the art of record. Claim 27 recites a similar feature and is patentable for similar reasons.

Claims 16 and 25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by US Publication No. 2004/0059918 A1 (Xu et al.). Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

As recited in independent Claim 16, the present invention includes the feature of embedding a digital watermark in content by a scheme corresponding to a result of discriminating whether an output style of content is a first style or a second style.

Applicant submits that Xu fails to disclose or suggest at least that feature. Although Xu discloses insertion of a watermark into an audio signal, that reference does not disclose or suggest discriminating whether an output style of content is a first style or a second style, and further fails to disclose or suggest embedding a digital watermark in content by a scheme corresponding to a discrimination result of such a discrimination. Accordingly, Claim 16 is patentable over the art of record. Independent Claim 25 recites a similar feature and is patentable for similar reasons.

Claims 18 and 26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,707,774 B1 (Kuroda et al.). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection for the reasons that follow.

As recited in independent Claim 18, the present invention includes the feature of embedding a digital watermark in content by a scheme corresponding to a discrimination result of discriminating a type of apparatus that processes the content. Applicant submits that the cited art does not disclose or suggest at least this feature. Kuroda et al. discloses discriminating the media on which information is recorded. However, that reference fails to disclose or suggest at least the feature of discriminating a type of apparatus that processes the content, and therefore also fails to disclose or suggest embedding a watermark by a scheme corresponding to the result of such a discrimination. Accordingly, Applicant submits that the invention of Claim 18 is patentable over the art of record. Independent Claim 26 recites a similar feature and is patentable for similar reasons.

Claims 13, 15 and 24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wu et al. in view of Xu et al. Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection for the reason discussed below.

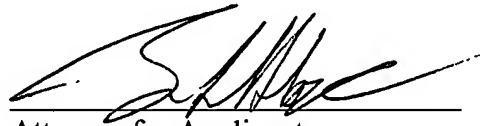
As recited in independent Claim 15, the present invention includes the features of decrypting an encrypted partial content into which a digital watermark is embedded after encryption and compositing the decrypted partial content with another partial content. Applicant submits that the cited art fails to disclose or suggest at least those features. Wu et al. and Xu et al. are discussed above. Those references fail to disclose or suggest, either individually or in combination, the features of decrypting an encrypted partial content in which a watermark is embedded after encryption, and then compositing the decrypted partial content with another partial content. Accordingly, Applicant submits that Claim 15 is patentable over the art of record. Independent Claim 24 includes similar features and is patentable for similar reasons.

The dependent claims are patentable for at least the same reasons as their respective independent claims, as well as for the additional features they recite.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, the claims are believed to be in allowable form. Therefore, early passage to issue is respectfully solicited.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "B. L. Klock", written over a horizontal line.

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